MY PICTURE BOOK

CHILDREN'S BOOK
COLLECTION

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The Olive Percival Collection of Children's Books

Byron Miller

Providence R I

THE NEW PET.

Why, you were once a baby too,
And could not jump as now you do;
But good mamma took care of you,
Like baby.

O dear mamma, to take such care,
And no kind pains or trouble spare
To feed and nurse you when you were
A baby.

ROVER.

Is a faithful little dog, and earns his dinner every day. He guards the house and garden. He attends the little ones in their walks, and would try to save them if they were in danger. He is a knowing fellow too, and is not in trouble half as often as his master.

THE NEW SLED.

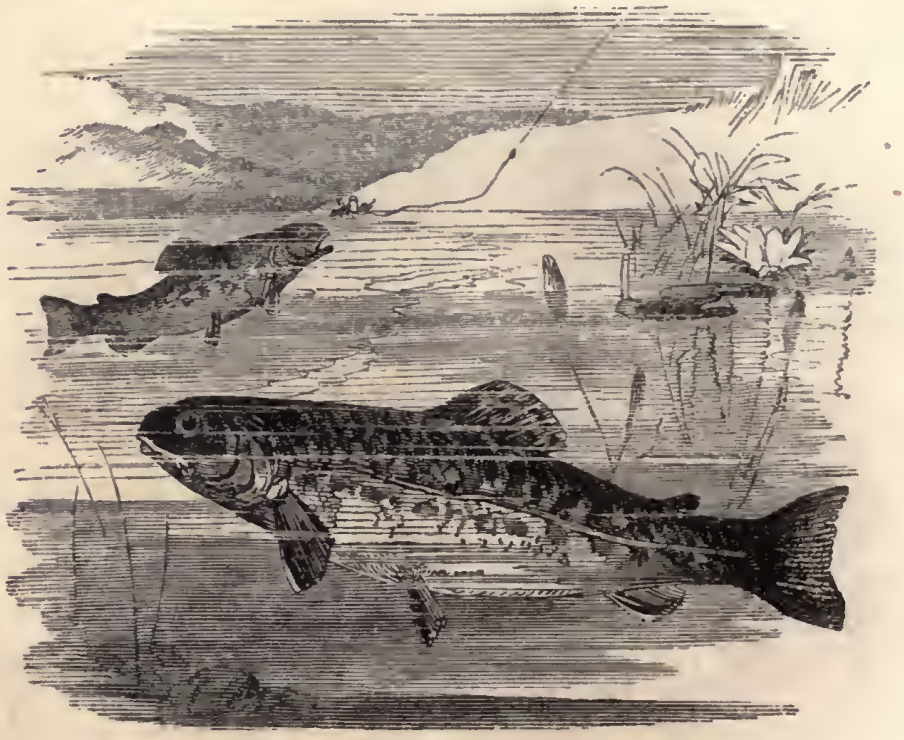
Ben has brought his new sled into the parlor, and says his mother must see it. And she must let him bring home something from the store for her. And then, before he goes off to play, dear little sister Alice must have a fine ride. How much better he will enjoy his sled after that!

PLAYING WITH THE CAT.

Tabby is always ready for a frolic, and so is her little mistress, and fine fun they have as long as both are good-natured. But if you tease and hurt her, and she can't get away, you will see her ears laid back and her tail waving; then look out for her claws.

THE NEWFOUNDLAND DOG

Is a large and noble animal, very faithful and knowing and gentle. He is fond of the water, and delights to play with and keep guard over little children, and do any thing else he can for his owner. One dog saved the lives of a shipful of men, by swimming out to them with a rope.



THE FOOLISH FISH

Cannot see the fisherman, and will not believe what his mother tells him; but the bait looks so tempting, that he will soon be in the frying-pan. How he will wish, as he lies panting and dying on the grass, that he had minded his mother's advice, and gone hungry till he found something to eat that had no hook in it.

UNCLE JOHN.

All the boys like "Uncle John," he knows so much, and loves them so much, and has so many stories to tell them. He has travelled in many lands, but the place he is aiming for is heaven; and he tells them about the by-ways he got into and was almost ruined, and how to keep in the true way to the very end.

THE DROWNING FLY.

He must soon have sunk in the swift stream, but for the leaf that dropped from the tree and came floating by. How glad he was to see it coming near; how he watched it lest it should go by him, and tried to reach it. When he has dried his wings, he will gladly fly off to the shore.

THE HYACINTH

Fills the parlor with its fragrance. But little Emily is a sweeter flower, and gladdens her father with the fragrance of her love, and trust, and obedience. If she is a child of God, Oh how lovely she will be in heaven—the garden of the Lord.

HOMELY, BUT USEFUL.

Many boys are ready to kill the toad, as if it did harm. Watch it however, and see how many insects and bugs it destroys, that otherwise would spoil your fine plums. Don't prize beauty too highly; and do not hurt any thing without good cause.

HOLIDAY GIFTS.

We all love to receive gifts from those we love, and we think it is mean not to show ourselves grateful. But how do we treat Him who gives us all things?

We love to receive gifts. But do we really believe "it is more blessed to give than to receive?" Christ says it is.

DEAR SISTER.

LITTLE babes need a great deal more care than any other young animal. But love makes all this care easy, and all these labors a pleasure, to baby's mother and sister. How glad they are to do every thing they can for the little one, though she can only pay them in smiles.

BRAVE AND GENTLE CARLO.

Is always ready to dash into the river and bring out any thing you throw in, and is willing to do it over again. How much he can be taught, how glad he is to please you, how patient when you ill-treat him! Many a big boy might be sent to school to Carlo, and learn a great many things.

THE LITTLE GARDENER

Is well brought up, and makes a good use of his time. Many a rich man's son would have been better off, for this world, and for the next world too, if he had been a poor boy and learned an honest trade. Learn to do something, and do it well.

THE YOUNG STUDENT.

THE South-sea islanders, when they first saw a "talking leaf," thought it was a perfect miracle to be able to read. We can now understand what men say to us that lived a thousand years ago. God wants all men to read what He says in the Bible.

THE PET HEN.

Who made some of the animals so that they love to live with men? And how is it that these are the most useful animals in the world?—the horse, the ox, the cow, the hen, the sheep, and the dog. These are the "domestic animals," which the good and wise Creator made to live with men and serve them.

GRAPE-VINES.

Christ once turned a great many gallons of water into wine in an instant. But his power turns water into wine every year—by passing the rain through the roots and stock and fruit of the vine, till it becomes wine; and none but God can do this.

WHO DID IT?

"That James never grew there by chance; some one certainly planned it." Very true. And who planned the little plant itself, and the great oaks, and the sun, and the stars? "He that made all things is God."

MY JACK AND FIDO

Are nearly of the same age, and have always been very fond of each other. They eat and sleep and play together; they rub noses and run after each other, and never hurt one another. I wish as much could be said of all boys that are brought up together.

THE SQUIRREL'S NEST.

HARRY has found a nest of young squirrels in a hole of a tree. Every day or two he looks in to see how the young squirrels get on. But he does not hurt them, and he has taught Fido to let their mother Bunny alone, and not worry her. How pleasant it is to see the woods, and waters, and air full of God's happy creatures.

THE TEA-PARTY.

What a pleasant time children have, when their lessons are learnt, and play-time has come, and they love each other enough to give up to one another gladly. Nothing delights parents more than to see their children thus loving and happy.

THOUGHTFUL KINDNESS.

A TRULY polite boy will not think of his own pleasure only, but will do all he can to make others happy. A selfish boy may be very polished and graceful, but he will not be a real gentleman, nor a Christian. Do to others as you ought to wish them to do to you: this is "the golden rule," and this is the way they all do in heaven.

THE GOOD GRANDSON.

Harry loves to play, but he loves to work too. He is making a raised path for his old grandfather, across a wet place where he got a heavy fall. Harry's heart dances with joy at thinking how surprised his dear grandfather will be, and how safely he will walk. Who would not do good?

STONING A SQUIRREL.

Boys take to stones very naturally, and like to hit any thing they see in motion. But squirrels and birds have rights, as well as boys. God gave them life; and we have no right to hurt or kill them for sport, nor without a good reason.

OUT-DOOR SPORTS.

Praise, praise, my heart, the God of love,
For all his gifts so free;
The smallest blessings that he sends
Are undeserved by me.

I am not blind, nor deaf, nor lame;
I see, and run, and sing;
I am as happy all the day
As birds upon the wing.

"NO, I WONT."

A TRUANT disobeys his parents, grieves his teacher, loses his lessons, sets a bad example, runs usually into lying and stealing, strengthens bad influences around him, and is pretty sure to be punished. Learn to say, No, whenever you are tempted; and stick to it. Die, if need be, as noble Knud Iverson did, rather than do wrong when you are tempted.

BOY AND ANT-HEAP.

THE ant clearly belongs to the working class. Early and late he is at it, and seems to be incapable of fatigue. With a load sometimes larger than himself, he "tugs and strives," till he gets it safe home.

In works of labor or of skill
  May I be busy too;
For Satan finds some mischief still
  For idle hands to do.

THE BIRD'S NEST.

Every kind of bird has a different home. One little thing actually sews leaves together for its nest, using its bill for a needle and fine grass for a thread. She lines it with soft wool. God has taught her how. Will you hurt what he takes such care of?

BROTHER AND SISTER.

FOOTBALL is a game for boys, though a gentle brother and sister may sometimes play it, rather than have no sport in the open air. And when boys play it by themselves, they must not be rude and brutal. You can do to others as you wish them to do to you, even in the midst of a hot and eager game of football.

SYLVAN LAKE.

How delightful the scene; how fresh the breeze; how clear the water; how charming the motion; how refreshing the change! But think of your parents' anxiety for your safe return. And often think of Him who watches over your soul, and beg him to bring you safe to heaven.

PREPARING FOR WINTER.

The snow has not come yet; how does Robert know there will be any? Perhaps he only expects it because every body else does. But we hope he thinks it will surely come because God has promised that "seed-time and harvest, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease."

MY BABY BROTHER.

Oh, dear mamma, where are you gone?
Come, see the baby stand alone;
And only think—indeed 't is truth—
I can just feel a little tooth.

I do not wonder that you take
Such constant pains for baby's sake;
That you should feed and watch him so,
Though all your love he cannot know.

HAPPY CHILDREN.

If little children love to pray,
And keep their temper all the day,
And never speak a wicked word
Whatever language they have heard;

And if they struggle hard and pray,
To drive all naughty thoughts away;
Then they 'll be happy all day long,
As wild birds in their morning song.

RUN AND PLAY.

The sweet fresh air so softly blows,
So brightly shines the sun,
That active limbs and rosy cheeks
Will in the race be won.

For little boys and girls may sing,
And frisk and jump and play,
When work and lessons both are done;
So run away, I say.

DON'T FEAR, DARLING.

A LITTLE child may at first be frightened to see the great black shadows on the wall, until she kisses her mother and sees the shadows kiss too. Many things are frightful to the child of God; but when he presses to the Saviour in love and trust, the darkest events are turned to light and peace.

REMEMBER THE POOR.

WHENE'ER I take my walks abroad,
How many poor I see!
What shall I render to my God
For all his gifts to me?

Are these thy favors day by day
To me above the rest!
Then let me love thee more than they,
And try to serve thee best.

THE PET LAMB.

Mary had a little lamb;
Its fleece was white as snow;
And everywhere that Mary went,
The lamb was sure to go.

What makes the lamb love Mary so?
The eager children cry:
"O, Mary loves the lamb, you know,"
The teacher did reply.

IDLE ANNA.

Oh, Anna, this will never do;
This work is sadly done, my dear;
And then so little of it too;
You have not taken pains, I fear.

The little girl that will not sew
Must neither be allowed to play;
And now I hope, my love, that you
Will take more pains another day.

BE KIND TO ALL.

Sweet it is to see a child
Ever merciful and mild;
Ever ready to perform
Acts of kindness to a worm.

God is love," and never can
Bless or love a cruel man;
Mercy rules in every breast
Where the Spirit deigns to rest.
We ourselves to mercy owe
Our escape from endless woe.

WORK AND PLAY.

All work and no play
Makes Jack a dull boy;
All play and no work
Makes him a mere toy.

The best plays are those that exercise both body and mind in the open air. Make your own ships, boys; and as you see carefully to the model, the sails, the rudder, and the ballast, think how your soul may sail safely over the great sea of life.

THE SULKY GIRL.

Why is Sarah standing there,
Leaning down upon a chair,
With such an angry lip and brow?
I wonder what's the matter now.

Oh how much better 't would appear
To see her shed a humble tear;
And then to hear her meekly say,
"I 'll not do so another day."

BE KIND TO HIM.

For he is blind, poor Johnny Bell,
The pleasant sky he cannot see,
Nor brilliant sun, nor lovely flowers,
Nor verdant grass, nor lofty tree.

He 's very gentle, kind, and good;
Blind Johnny all the children love.
He 's in the holy keeping too
Of the good God who reigns above.

HELP THE POOR.

I HEAR the voice of woe,
I hear a brother's sigh;
Then let my heart with pity flow,
With tears of love my eye.

I hear the thirsty cry,
The hungry beg for bread;
Then let my spring its stream supply,
My hand its bounty shed.

THE HEATHEN MOTHER.

HEATHEN women have less love for their little ones than our Christian mothers have, and in many cases kill them to get them out of the way or to please their false gods. It is a great comfort to believe that Christ takes all these little ones to himself.

"What is that, mother?"
The swan, my love;
He is floating down from his native grove;
No loved one now, no nestling nigh,
He is floating down by himself to die.
Death darkens his eye and unplumes his wings, [sings.
Yet the sweetest song is the last he
Live so, my child, that when death shall come,
Swan-like and sweet it may waft thee home.

LIONESS AND CUBS.

The young cub of the lion is for a while unable to provide for itself; and during this time its fierce and cruel mother takes the utmost care of it, brings it food, and is ready to die in its defence. Who put this love and care into the breast of the savage lioness?

THE PET CAT.

Some little girl loves this pretty cat, and brings her fresh milk, and has tied a ribbon round her neck. Happy cat, to be so cared for by her young mistress; does she love her? And happy little girl, to be loved and cared for in a thousand ways by her parents, and by God. Does she love and obey them?

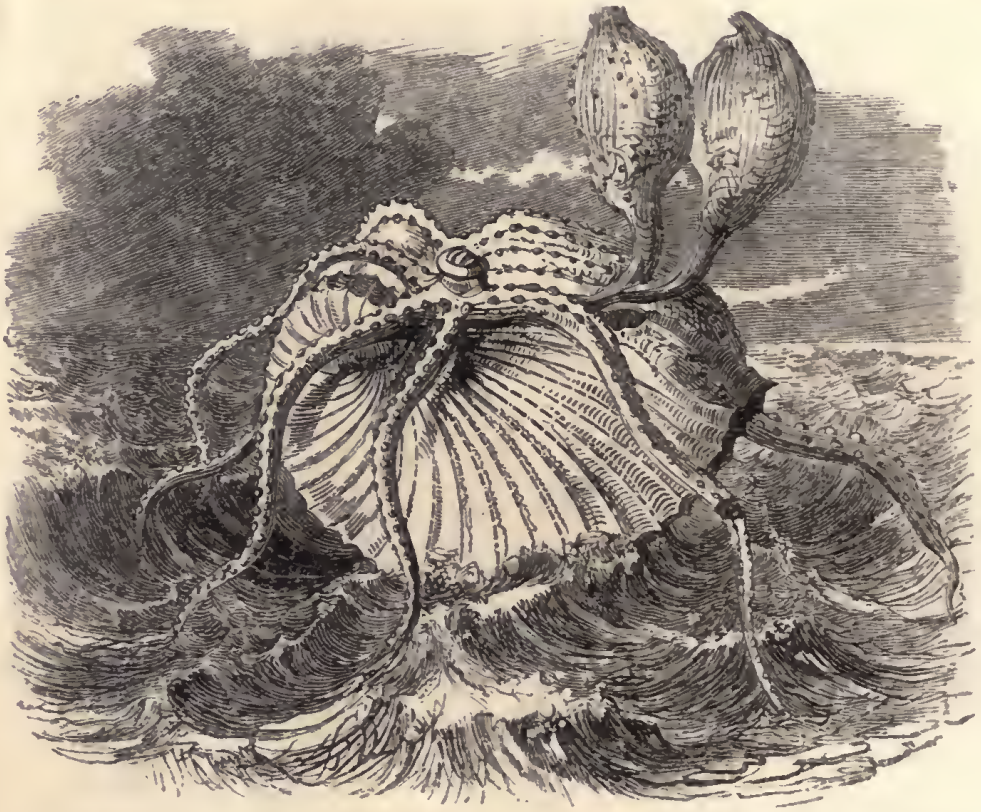
CASHMERE GOATS.

These goats live in valleys of the high mountains in Central Asia. Their wool makes very soft and fine and costly shawls. The goats live on poor fare, and if they come down into warmer lands and fare better, their wool becomes coarse and poor. So men often grow worse when they have what they wish.

SWALLOWS ON THE SEA-SHORE.

Do n't kill the birds, the pretty birds,
That play among the trees;
'T would make the earth a cheerless place
To see no more of these.

Do n't kill the birds, the happy birds,
That cheer the field and grove;
Such harmless things to look upon,
They claim our warmest love.



THE NAUTILUS.

This curious little shell-fish has the power of sailing along on the surface of the sea; and when it wishes, of sinking down far out of sight. God has taught it how to do this, and takes care of it wherever it may be. And will he not take care of his children, who love and obey him?

CAIN AND ABEL.

How different are these two brothers. God loves Abel, because Abel loves Him and is sorry for his sins. But Cain hates both God and his good brother. If we hate any one, and are murderers in our hearts, we may have a brother's blood to answer for, like Cain.

MOSES IN THE ARK.

It was a kind mother that put her little boy to float in the river in a water-proof basket. She believed God would take care of him; and He did—He sent a king's daughter there, and she took him home like her own child. She called him Moses, which means, Taken out of the water.

DAVID TENDING HIS FLOCK.

THOSE were some of the happiest days in David's life, when he was a humble shepherd boy, and had time to praise God with psalms and his harp. After he became king he had many cares, and fell into sin; but he humbled himself, and God loved him.

DAVID AND SAUL.

DAVID'S sweet music drove away sad and evil thoughts from king Saul's mind for the time. But if he had gone to God instead of David, and prayed to Him with repentance and faith, the evil spirit would have been driven away from him for ever. Ah, God is always our best friend.

THE DEAD BOY RAISED.

Elisha the prophet was "a man of God;" and in answer to his prayers, God raised a beloved boy to life and restored him to his wondering mother. What a good man that boy ought to have been.

But God saves every boy's life now a great many times, when we do not know it. And he gave his Son's life to save our souls. Ought we not all to love and obey him?

THE HEBREW CAPTIVE.

The poor girl was far from home, and was a waiting-maid in a heathen general's family. But how happy she was! for she knew the true God was as mighty and good and near at hand there, as in her old home. And how much good she did by bearing witness for him. Her master was cured, and led to serve God, by her means. Happy are all they that put their trust in God.

OFFERINGS IN THE TEMPLE.

When our Saviour was a babe, his parents brought him to the temple, with offerings. Every Jewish boy was thus presented to the Lord for his blessing; but no one ever pleased him as Jesus did, every moment of his life. What a lovely child and youth. Who will be like him?

DANIEL AND THE LIONS.

The lions were hungry, and tore several men in pieces before they dropped to the floor of the den. But they could not touch the good Daniel, for God kept them off, because he was a man of prayer. If we love to pray, God will love us as he did Daniel, and nothing will do us any real harm.

THE BLIND HEALED.

How happy and glad the poor man must have been to see the sun, and the clouds, and the blue sky for the first time! But what do you think he looked at first, and most fondly? Ah, it was the face of his blessed Saviour and God. Do you love Christ so, and long to see him?

HOME, SWEET HOME.

How gladly we get safely back to it, from a journey; and still more if we come home from long banishment, fully forgiven and welcome! How dear are home comforts, home peace, and love. We are exiles from heaven; but God has a glorious home for us there, and if we come to him in Christ, he will see us afar off, and welcome us.

THE LAST SUPPER.

Christ had but a little band of disciples with him, when he ate the Passover, and instituted The Lord's Supper. But he is just as truly present with his people now, as then, at this supper. If we do not eat of it here on earth, with faith and love, how can we hope to be with him in heaven?

DAVID AND HIS SLING.

He is watching the flight of his stone to the forehead of the giant, whose shadow you see on the ground. He knows how to sling, and does his best, and God guides the stone. May David's God help us to slay our enemy, sin, who is worse than Goliath.